

Your local Sierra Club:

'Grassroots' set-up yields expansion

Will Oregon's last wilderness areas be left in the timber industry's hands? Not if the members of the Eugene Sierra Club have their way.

The club plans to fight to preserve wilderness areas in the Willamette National Forest from the grassroots all the way through to the canopy.

The Eugene club may be successful in this effort due to the grassroots organization of the nation-wide Sierra Club.

"Unlike other environmental groups," states Holloway Jones, University librarian and former national board member of the club, "projects are implemented by local people who understand the power structure and the particular needs of their environment."

The national board of directors consisting of 15 persons creates broad national objectives which each chapter must follow. The chapters are broken down into semi-autonomous groups which work on specific environment-related problems in that area.

Originally created to fight for the protection of wilderness areas and other forestry issues, the club now has broadened its scope to include every facet of the environment.

Nationally, the Sierra Club has been involved with the Clean Air Act, wilderness area protection and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Organic Act. The latter, recently passed by Congress, gives the BLM basic regulations for administration of its lands. This will have impact in Oregon be-

cause the BLM has never had clear-cut regulations governing the 30 per cent of Oregon land which it controls.

On the local level, the group, taking in Douglas, Lane, Crook, Deschutes, and Coos counties, is mainly concerned with land use planning, saving French Pete, and city projects such as the 1990 plan.

The Eugene club was created unofficially in 1960 and was recognized in 1968. It has recently become involved with urban problems including highway expansions, the Willamette Greenway project, and the movement to save the South Hills.

Working with the forest service on Willamette National Forest land use planning is the group's current interest. The Sierra Club

plans to hold public information meetings and review the forest service plan when it comes out.

Kurt Kutay, a member of the club, foresees that the plan will "propose to log almost all of the Wilderness areas, which are the last undeveloped areas in the na-

Kutay, "and now they want to come into the public lands." The Sierra club has a policy of working with the industry to discuss and resolve matters of this nature although there are usually major differences of opinion.

Another service of the club is to initiate outings. People are taken on these outings by members of the club to enjoy the forest and wilderness.

Monthly programs are also held to inform the community about upcoming events and to get feedback and advice from the public.

The club will soon be starting a membership drive to encourage people to join. There are now approximately 2,400 members in Oregon, and 165,000 members nationwide.

By SARAH McDONALD
Of the Emerald

tional forest." They plan to encourage the forest service to preserve these areas, especially 24 areas at lower elevations.

The timber industry in Oregon is also involved in this conflict. "They overcut their own lands," says

Fadeley urges compensation for victimized

"Society has for too long been concerned about criminals, but not about the victims of their crimes," Nancy Fadeley, Democratic candidate for Congress from District 42, told a Demo-Forum audience Monday.

The victims, who Fadeley said are more apt to be disadvantaged, presently have no redress, and she wants to see the situation remedied.

Her two areas of concern are the financial and emotional well-being of the victim after the commission of a crime.

To remedy the financial problems, she is proposing that the State of Oregon, in a 50-50 deal with the federal government, provide up to \$50,000 restitution to victims. She cited a bill pending in the U.S. Legislature that would establish this kind of a system as the impetus for her proposal. She also noted that the State of Maryland has a restitution program presently which resulted in claims last year of \$1.5 million.

While she is still studying funding methods for the program, Fadeley mentioned as two possible sources a small charge — approximately \$5 — levied against criminals at the time conviction or possibly taken from the State General Fund.

For the emotional trauma caused by crime, she proposed the state set up a "victim advocates" program modeled after a similar program in Multnomah County. This, she said, would provide support for the victims through the entire criminal justice process, refer them to appropriate community services and provide notification concerning what happened to the criminal.

The courts, she said, should also put more energy into insuring that criminals already charged with making restitution follow up and actually make it.

Fadeley is opposed in the race by Republican candidate Vance Freeman.

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